

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 08818 110648Z

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UNCLAS TOKYO 8818

USIAC

STATE FOR CU

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: SPEAKER EVALUATION -- MICHAEL GUHIN

1. NSC'S MICHAEL GUHIN WAS PINCH-HITTER FOR DR. JOHN LEHMAN WHO CANCELLED OUT OF POST'S MAJOR SECURITY PACKAGE AT LAST MINUTE. GUHIN SCHEDULED FOR TOKYO PROGRAM, MEETINGS WITH PRESS AND MOFA, AND USG SPOKESMAN ROLE AT MAJOR SECURITY SEMINAR FOR PROMINENT JAPANESE ACADEMICS AT KHOTO AMERICAN CENTER.

2. PROGRAM AT TOKYO AMERICAN CENTER HAD BARNETT AS CO-SPEAKER AND WENT QUITE WELL. GUHIN'S COMMENTS NOT ESPECIALLY INSIGHTFUL, BUT COMPETENT AND SUPPORTIVE OF OBJECTIVES. IN KYOTO WHERE ACADEMICS WERE BY THEIR OWN ADMISSION QUOTE LAYING FOR HIM UNQUOTE HIS PRESENTATION WAS IMMEDIATELY ATTACKED AS BEING SUPERFICIAL. THE JAPANESE PROFESSORS, KNOWING HIS STATUS, WANTED OPPORTUNITY MAKE SOME STRONG POINTS WITH NSC, THEREFORE HIT GUHIN WITH CRITICISM OF POLITICAL/ECONOMIC LINKAGES, ALEGED CONTRADICTIONS IN ADMINISTRATION FOREIGN POLICY AND COUNTER-THESIS OF NIXON DOCTRINE AS MERELY AFFIRMATION OF POST-VIETNAM WITHDRAWAL. GUHIN UNPREPARED TO FIELD THESE ASSAULTS AND POST OBJECTIVES FAIRED POORLY IN SEMINAR.

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3. ON BASIS OF SATISFACTORY PROGRAM IN TOKYO AND
SOMEWHAT PAINFUL BUT THOROUGH SENSITIZATION TO HOT
LOCAL ISSUES IN US-JAPAN RELATIONS, WE WOULD BE
WILLING TO PROGRAM HIM AGAIN IN FUTURE, BUT WITH
AUDIENCE AND TOPIC MORE APPROPRIATE TO HIS
ARE OF SPECIALIZATION AND EXPERTISE.

4. GUHIN TO BE COMMENDED FOR HELPFULNESS AND
COOPERATIVENESS IN ALL PROGRAMMING REQUESTS THROUGH-
OUT DIFFICULT ROLE AS SUBSTITUTE.
CARTER

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NNN

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